



The State of Maryland

Executive Department

EXECUTIVE CLEMENCY PARDON

WHEREAS, JOHN NORMAN HUFFINGTON, Grantee, was convicted of two (2) counts of first-degree murder and other related charges on November 13, 1981, in the Circuit Court for Caroline County;

WHEREAS, Following his conviction for said crimes JOHN NORMAN HUFFINGTON was sentenced to death;

WHEREAS, JOHN NORMAN HUFFINGTON's sentence was reversed on appeal in the Maryland Court of Appeals (now the Supreme Court of Maryland) on December 6, 1982, and he was granted a new trial, holding that certain evidence had been erroneously admitted and the case was transferred to the Circuit Court for Frederick County for purposes of the new trial;

WHEREAS, JOHN NORMAN HUFFINGTON, Grantee, was convicted of first-degree murder, robbery with a dangerous and deadly weapon, robbery, use of a handgun in the commission of a felony (murder), use of a handgun in the commission of a felony (robbery), and unlawfully did wear/transport a handgun (case #10-K-83-006373) on November 19, 1983, in the Circuit Court for Frederick County;

WHEREAS, Following his conviction for said crimes JOHN NORMAN HUFFINGTON was sentenced to death plus 15 years concurrent;

WHEREAS, JOHN NORMAN HUFFINGTON, Grantee, was convicted of first-degree murder, burglary with intent to commit a felony, burglary with intent to steal, theft, robbery with a dangerous and deadly weapon, and unlawfully did carry a concealed weapon on or about his person (case #10-K-83-006374) on November 19, 1983, in the Circuit Court for Frederick County;

WHEREAS, Following his conviction for said crimes, JOHN NORMAN HUFFINGTON was sentenced in case #10-K-83-006373 to death plus 15 years concurrent and in case #10-K-83-006374 to death plus three (3) years consecutive to the 15-year sentence in case #10-K-83-006373;



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WHEREAS,

On March 9, 1987, JOHN NORMAN HUFFINGTON filed a petition for post-conviction relief that was subsequently denied on January 8, 1991, except that JOHN NORMAN HUFFINGTON was granted a new sentencing hearing;

WHEREAS,

On April 28, 1992, JOHN NORMAN HUFFINGTON was resentenced to life imprisonment plus 15 years consecutive (but concurrent to the sentence in case #10-K-83-006374) in case #10-K-83-006373 and life imprisonment consecutive to case #10-K-83-006373 plus three (3) years concurrent (but consecutive to the 15-year sentence in case #10-K-83-006373) in case #10-K-83-006374;

WHEREAS,

On November 13, 2010, JOHN NORMAN HUFFINGTON filed a petition for writ of actual innocence pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Crim. Proc. § 8-301;

WHEREAS,

On May 11, 2013, the Circuit Court for Frederick County granted the writ of actual innocence, vacated JOHN NORMAN HUFFINGTON'S convictions of two (2) counts of first-degree murder and other related charges pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Crim. Proc. § 8-301 and granted a new trial;

WHEREAS,

On November 9, 2017, JOHN NORMAN HUFFINGTON entered an "Alford Plea" for first-degree murder, robbery with a dangerous and deadly weapon (case #10-K-83-006373) and first-degree murder and burglary with intent to commit a felony (case #10-K-83-006374) in the Circuit Court for Frederick County;

WHEREAS,

Following his "Alford plea" for said crimes, JOHN NORMAN HUFFINGTON was sentenced to 32 years, one (1) month, 24 days incarceration (i.e., time served) and 24 days of unsupervised probation;

WHEREAS,

On October 22, 2021, the Supreme Court of Maryland disbarred Joseph Cassilly, the prosecuting attorney, for prosecutorial misconduct, some of which occurred during these trials; and

WHEREAS,

The interests of the State of Maryland and the Grantee will best be served by the granting of a pardon to JOHN NORMAN HUFFINGTON;




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NOW, THEREFORE, I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, HAVING BEEN SHOWN CONCLUSIVELY THAT **JOHN NORMAN HUFFINGTON'S** CONVICTIONS AS DESCRIBED ABOVE WERE IN ERROR, DO HEREBY GRANT UNTO **JOHN NORMAN HUFFINGTON** A FULL PARDON FOR THESE CONVICTIONS (AND ONLY THESE CONVICTIONS), HOWEVER, THE GRANTEE REMAINS SUBJECT TO ANY RESTRICTIONS ON, OR DISQUALIFICATIONS OR PROHIBITIONS FROM POSSESSING SHOTGUNS, RIFLES, FIREARMS, OR AMMUNITION THAT MAY BE IMPOSED BY LAW, CURRENTLY OR IN THE FUTURE, AS A RESULT OF ANY OTHER CONVICTIONS.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, in the City of Annapolis, this 13th day of January, 2023.



Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.
Governor

ATTEST:



John C. Wobensmith
Secretary of State

